

## **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed December 27, 2005. Claims 1, 3, 5-15 and 18-24 are rejected and claim 23 is objected to. In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11 and 18 been amended. No matter has been added. Claim 23 has been cancelled.

Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the applicability of the doctrine of equivalents.

### **Allowable subject matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 23 includes allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended independent claim 6 to include the limitations of claim 23. Therefore, claim 6 and associated dependent claims 7-10, and 22 are now in condition of allowance.

Applicants have amended independent claim 11 to include the limitations of claim 23. Therefore, claim 11 and associated dependent claims 12-15 and 24 are now in condition of allowance.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 23. Therefore, claim 1 and associated dependent claims 3, 5, and 18-21 are now in condition of allowance.

### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

The Examiner rejected claims 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as lacking antecedent basis. Applicants have amended the claims to supply proper antecedent basis and to

overcome the rejection.

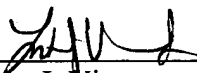
**Deposit Account Authorization**

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR  
& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: April 26, 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lester J. Vincent  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 31,460

12400 Wilshire Boulevard  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026  
(408) 720-8300